

Abstract

Immortalized epithelial tumor cell

The present invention relates to epithelial tumor cells with metastatic potential which have integrated in their genome or another replicative genetic element at least one externally introduced immortalizing oncogene and optionally at least one gene encoding an immunostimulatory factor which are expressed in such tumor cells. The invention further relates to antibodies which specifically recognize the epithelial tumor cells of the invention, to processes for the production of said tumor cells as well as pharmaceutical and diagnostic compositions comprising said tumor cells and antibodies, respectively. Finally the present invention relates to the use of the epithelial tumor cells and/or antibodies of the invention for the preparation of tumor vaccines and medicaments for the prophylaxis and/or treatment of cancer and/or the metastasis of cancer.